

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 2 and 3 and AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An information ranking system comprising:

information analyzing means for analyzing contents-information concerning an investigation target page on the Internet, said investigation target page being designated by a user; and

ranked value calculating means for calculating a ranked value indicating the factuality and reliability of said investigation target page, based on the analysis result of said information analyzing means;

guarantee data preparing means for preparing ranking guarantee data of said investigation target page, based on the ranked value calculated by said ranked value calculating means; and

guarantee data sending means for sending the ranking guarantee data prepared by said guarantee data preparing means to the user who has designated said investigation target page.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (CANCELLED)

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An information ranking system of claim-~~21~~, further comprising:

guarantee fee determining means for determining a guarantee fee to be imposed on the user who has designated said investigation target page; and

fee imposition detail sending means for sending fee imposition details determined by

said guarantee fee determining means, to the user who has designated said investigation target page.

5. (ORIGINAL) An information ranking system of claim 1, further comprising:

information offer receiving means for receiving an information offer concerning a page on the Internet;

information offer reward determining means for determining an information offer reward corresponding to the information received by said information offer receiving means; and

information offer reward paying means for paying the information offer reward determined by said information offer reward determining means to an information provider.

6. (ORIGINAL) An information ranking system of claim 1, further comprising:

a database for storing the ranked value calculated by said ranked value calculating means; and

information disclosing means for disclosing the ranked value stored in said database.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An information ranking method comprising:

~~an information analyzing step for analyzing contents-information concerning an investigation target page on the Internet,~~ the investigation target page being designated by a user; and

~~a ranked value calculating step for calculating a ranked value indicating the factuality and reliability of said investigation target page, based on the analysis result of said information analyzing step;~~

preparing ranking guarantee data of the investigation target page, based on the ranked value calculated by said calculating; and

sending the ranking guarantee data prepared by said preparing to the user who has designated the investigation target page.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium recorded with an

information ranking program for ~~rendering~~ causing a computer to ~~realize~~ execute:

~~an information analyzing function for~~ analyzing contents-information concerning an investigation target page on the Internet, the investigation target page being designated by a user; and

~~a ranked value calculating function for~~ calculating a ranked value indicating the factuality and reliability of said investigation target page, based on the analysis result of said ~~information analyzing function~~;

preparing ranking guarantee data of the investigation target page, based on the ranked value calculated by said calculating; and

sending the ranking guarantee data prepared by said preparing to the user who has designated the investigation target page.